



The Florida Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter Newsletter



Sept 2023

Facebook page: Fort Lauderdale Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Fort Lauderdale Chapter chartered December 8, 1966

Volume 54 Number 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots and Friends,

I hope all of you enjoyed the summer and our August 2023 break.

Since the last meeting, our three July 2023 applicants have all been approved by SAR -- Peter DeWick, Jim McHugh and Lincoln Pero. Both Peter DeWick and Lincoln Pero will be present for induction at our September 16, 2023 lunch meeting. Jim McHugh will be present for induction at our meeting scheduled for October 14, 2023. Also, during August 2023, applications have been submitted to SAR for brothers Blair and Newton Collins, and for Eric Knott. The fun does not stop there as I near completion on four other applications. Our net 2023 membership is now at 76, with more new members to be added before year end.

August 2023 also marked our kick-off for collections of 2024 dues and donations. I am pleased to report that we have received payments from 58 (76%) members. Among these, 30 (40%) have made donations to the Chapter that currently total \$1,516. Of the thirty, 16 (21%) have included at least \$50 to be made a part of the Chapter's 2024 donation of \$1,776 to the SAR Education Center and Museum Project.

September is the month, in accordance with our by-laws, that we start the process for nomination of proposed 2024 Chapter officers with elections to be conducted at our meeting of November 11, 2023. Elected positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar/Genealogist, Editor, Historian, and Chaplin. If you are interested in being considered for one of these positions, please let me know by September 30, 2023. The Executive Committee will meet shortly thereafter to discuss and recommend the proposed slate of 2024 Chapter officers which will be announced at the Chapter lunch meeting scheduled for October 14, 2023.

Among the current information in the September 2023 Newsletter, be sure and review:

Page 3. Kevin Shurte's article on the *First Continental Congress – September 5, 1774*. In observance of SAR's 250th Anniversary Recognition Program, each publication month we examine and report on a key person or event of the Revolutionary War era (1764 – 1783).

Page 4. The article, *Bronze Meritorious Service Medal Awarded To Joe Motes*. As we wish Joe well on his move to the Jacksonville area, this article summarizes his extensive service to both the Chapter and the Florida Society.

Page 5. New Member Profiles on Peter H. DeWick and R. James McHugh.

For the most current information on upcoming meetings or for information and links to prior Chapter activity, visit us at www.fortlauderdale.sar.org.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Chuck Adams
President and Registrar/Genealogist
Fort Lauderdale Chapter SAR



NEXT MEETING - September 16, 2023

Davie Outback Steak House
2725 South University Dr. Davie, Florida 33328

Future Dates:

Saturday, 10/14/2023
Saturday, 11/11/2023
Saturday, 01/20/2024
Saturday, 02/17/2024
Saturday, 03/16/2024

Time: 11:30 AM social gathering; Lunch at noon

FOR RESERVATIONS CALL: 954-345-6276
or e-mail Chuck Adams at: chuckadams1808@gmail.com

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SUMMARY—JULY 29, 2023

At our July 29, 2023, meeting we had 15 members and 9 guests. Members (15): Chuck Adams,^{ca} President & Registrar/Genealogist; Steve De Paul,^{ca} Vice President & Sergeant-at-Arms; Mark Snider,^{ca} Secretary; Kevin Shurte,^{ca} Historian; Tim McLane,^{ca} Chaplain; Jim Clark; Ted Duay; Herb Gardner; Martin Hollick; Jim Lohmeyer; Scott Moore; Barry Moss; John Sauerwald; Tom Shepherd; and Pete Stevenson. Prospective Members / Guests (9): Lincoln Pero, Prospect; Ronna Adams; Amanda Barnes; Maria Conrado; Shelley Gardner; Ellen Higginbotham; Lynne Moore; Kathy Shurte; and Braden Shurte. The sub-section ^{ca} records compatriots attending in colonial attire.

Color Guardsmen Tim McLane, Steve DePaul, Kevin Shurte, & Mark Snider presented the colors with Chuck Adams leading the assembly in the SAR Pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chuck Adams recognized the presence of our newest applicant, Lincoln Pero, and stated that other July 2023 applicants are Peter DeWick and Jim McHugh. He said that year to date, our membership has increased from 59 to net 72. He read the names of our recently approved life members: Chuck Adams, Paul DeBold, Steve De Paul, Ted Duay, Barry Moss, Mark Parker, Kevin Shurte, Mark Snider, and Ed Sisson.

Mark Snider stated that 1,870 points have been accumulated by the Chapter for the 2023 Stark Awards Program. He reported on the Donut Saturday event sponsored by the Chapter on June 24, 2023, for veterans residing at the Nininger Nursing Home which he along with Steve De Paul, John & Dee Sauerwald attended. Mark stated that he and Chuck Adams attended the Zoom meeting of the CDCE/VAVS held on July 25, 2023. In-person meetings will resume starting with the next meeting scheduled for October 24, 2023. Ellen Higginbotham provided an update on Honor Flights of South Florida. She said that the remaining flights for this year are scheduled for September 23, 2023 and October 28, 2023, and that both will depart from and return to the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport.

Chuck Adams gave the Status of Fund Report as of June 30, 2023. On 2023 youth programs, he said that 32 JROTC Medals and Certificates were awarded, and that 8 Bronze Good Citizenship Medals and Certificates were awarded to Sea Cadets. He said that Joe Motes will continue the administration of the program remotely. Chapter members will need to volunteer to attend the local ceremonies in order to present the awards generally done between April and June.

Kevin Shurte presented the 250 Anniversary Recognition Program Report. This month he summarized his report on *The Olive Branch Petition of July 5, 1775*, which is published in the July 2023 Newsletter.

Chuck Adams reported on the July 15-20, 2023, SAR 133rd Congress which he attended along with Steve De Paul, Kevin Shurte and Mark Snider. Kevin Shurte reported on his attendance at the Youth Awards Breakfast.

Chuck Adams stated that prior to June we had three corporate donors contribute to the Chapter to help in carrying out our mission: Danto Builders, LLC; Arrow Asphalt & Engineering, Inc; and T. R. Painting Specialist, Inc. Each has been issued a Certificate of Appreciation and invited to attend a future Chapter meeting. Our newest corporate donor is the H.S. White Corporation, located in Pompano Beach. Chuck Adams, assisted by Kevin Shurte, presented Amanda J. Barnes representing the H.S. White Corporation, the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

Chuck Adams reported that he, accompanied by Steve De Paul, presented the Chapter's Bronze Meritorious Service Medal to Joe Motes on July 27, 2023.

To read the complete set of the minutes of general members meeting held on the July 29, 2023, open the document sent to you by e-mail, or review it at the archives subpage for minutes and agendas which are maintained at the Chapter website: www.fortlauderdale-sar.org.



Chuck Adams (right) and Kevin Shurte (left) present Amanda J Barnes a Certificate of Appreciation to the H. S. White Corporations.



AMERICA 250

FIRST CONTINENTAL CONGRESS – SEPTEMBER 5, 1774

By Kevin Shurte



In reaction to British Parliament's passage of the Intolerable Acts of 1774, the First Continental Congress convened at Carpenter's Hall in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on September 5th of that year. Fifty-six delegates from 12 of the 13 British colonies attended. Although many Georgians op-

posed British trade intervention, Georgia abstained from sending delegates to the convention due to pending conflicts with local Indian tribes and the state's dependency upon the crown for military protection.

Under the direction of Peyton Randolph of Virginia as president, delegates of the First Continental Congress established a compact among the colonies and created a singular colonial voice intent on shaping future relations with Britain. However, the aims of the several delegates varied immensely. The conservative delegations from New York and Pennsylvania had been specifically instructed to seek means through which to mend relations with Britain. Moderate delegates from the various colonies sought to establish legislative parity with Parliament. Yet the more radical elements (e.g., John Adams, Samuel Adams, and Patrick Henry) sought to "dissolve the political bands" connecting them with England. Congress held session for a total of 52 days from September 5 through October 26 in 1774. Throughout deliberations, the delegates discussed and debated the purposes of their meeting, their grievances with Parliament and the Crown, and resolutions by which to remedy these grievances and reestablish unity with Britain.

As one of its first acts, the Continental Congress endorsed the Suffolk Resolves on September 15. The Suffolk Resolves was a declaration passed in Suffolk County Massachusetts that demanded defiance of the Intolerable Acts, refused the importation of British goods, and instructed colonies to raise and train militias. On October 14, Congress adopted the Declaration of Rights and Grievances – a statement of the natural rights of Englishmen, a denunciation of taxation without representation, and a call for greater colonial autonomy and limited parliamentary influence over the colonies. On October 20, the First Continental Congress passed the Articles of Association. Like the Suffolk Resolves, the Articles established a boycott on imports from Britain and its colonies, including a ban on the slave trade, and was set to commence in December of that year if the Intolerable Acts were not repealed. The Articles further restricted the exportation of goods from Colonial America to Britain and its colonial holdings beginning in September 1775. In addition, the Articles set standards of proper etiquette for colonists to follow during the boycott such as avoiding "cock fighting, exhibitions of shews, plays, and other expensive diversions and entertainments" (National Archives Foundation).

While in place, the Articles' boycotts successfully damaged the British economy and may have contributed in part to parliament's eventual repeal of the Intolerable Acts in 1778.

Perhaps the most important outcome of the First Continental Congress is that it gave the colonies a unified body through which they could voice their disapproval with Britain's colonial policies. As a final act, congressional delegates set May 10, 1775, as the date upon which Congress would reconvene. However, by the time this date was to arrive, war would have already begun in the colonies, and Congress' attitude toward Britain would have demonstrably changed.

Sources:

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2. "1774 Articles of Association." *National Archives Foundation*, 31 July 2015, (www.archivesfoundation.org/documents/1774-articles-association/ :accessed 2 Aug 2023).
3. *Avalon Project - Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress*, (Avalon Project - Declaration and Resolves of the First Continental Congress (yale.edu) : accessed 2 Aug 2023).
4. "Continental Congress: First, Second & Definition – History," *History.Com*, (www.history.com/topics/american-revolution/the-continental-congress : accessed 2 Aug 2023).
5. "Declaration of Independence (1776)." *Bill of Rights Institute*, (billofrightsinstitute.org/primary-sources/declaration-of-independence : accessed 2 Aug. 2023).
6. "First Continental Congress." *George Washington's Mount Vernon*, (www.mountvernon.org/library/digitalhistory/digital-encyclopedia/article/first-continental-congress/ : accessed 2 Aug 2023).
7. "First Continental Congress." *Ushistory.Org*, (www.ushistory.org/declaration/related/congress.html#:~:text=The%20first%20Continental%20Congress%20met,colonies%20except%20Georgia%20sent%20delegates : accessed 2 Aug. 2023).
8. "On This Day: The First Continental Congress Concludes." *National Constitution Center – Constitutioncenter.Org*, (constitutioncenter.org/blog/on-this-day-the-first-continental-congress-concludes#:~:text=On%20October%206%2C%201774%2C%20the,broke%20out%20on%20an%20American%20soil: accessed 2 Aug. 2023).
9. *Revolutionary War in Georgia - New Georgia Encyclopedia*, (www.georgiaencyclopedia.org/articles/history-archaeology/revolutionary-war-in-georgia/ : accessed 3 Aug 2023).



BRONZE MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL AWARDED TO JOE MOTES



Compatriot Joe Motes was awarded the Fort Lauderdale Chapter's Bronze Meritorious Service Medal on July 27, 2023. The medal was presented by Chapter President, Chuck Adams, and Vice President, Steven De Paul. Joe, who is completing a move to the Jacksonville area, has been affiliated with the Fort Lauderdale Chapter since first joining SAR on September 6, 1994. Joe has continuously contributed to the maintenance and development

of the Chapter including service as: 1) President, 1998-1999, 2001-2002 & 2005; 2) Vice President, 1995-1997, 2003 & 2004; 3) Treasurer, 2006 – 2023; 4) Historian, 2016 – 2023; and 5) Editor, 1996 – present. Additional services include: 27 years as JROTC Chairman; 17 years as Eagle Scout Chairman; and 17 years as Sergeant-at-Arms. In addition to these elected and appointed positions, he has also been our Chapter representative to various local community, military & lineage groups including local chapters of the Broward DAR and the Swamp Fox Society C.A.R. His work and volunteer service on behalf of veterans and to the William "Bill" Kling VA Outpatient Clinic serving Broward County is another accomplishment, and we congratulate him on recently receiving the 10,000 hour service pin awarded by that organization.

Joe is known throughout the Florida Society for his work with veterans and in administering SAR youth recognition and award programs both with the JROTC / Sea Cadet Medal Program, the Eagle Scout Recognition Program, and as a Senior C.A.R. Advisor. He also served as FLSSAR Recording Secretary (2006-2007) and SE Regional VP (2015 – 2016). He is a recipient of the Florida Society's: Roger Sherman Medal (2022 & 2017); Meritorious Service Medal (2021); and Patriot Medal (2015). We are pleased that Joe will maintain his active membership with the Fort Lauderdale Chapter where he will continue remotely as Newsletter Editor, Facebook Page Administrator, and as the administrative coordinator and liaison for the Chapter's JROTC / Sea Cadet Program.

A special recognition lunch was held for Joe on August 5, 2023. Ten Compatriot Chapter members attended: Chuck Adams, Jim Clark, Paul DeBold, Ted Duay, Jim Lohmeyer, Dave Lohmeyer, John Lohmeyer, Tommy Lohmeyer, Kevin Shurte and Mark Snider. Also attending from the Miami Chapter were SE Region VP, Bill Wicks, and SAR Foundation Board Member, Lee Popham, as well as Fort Lauderdale Chapter friend, Alan Starr.



Left: SE Regional VP / Miami Chapter, Bill Wicks; Former FLSSAR President / Miami Chapter, Lee Popham; Fort Lauderdale Chapter, Joe Motes; Former FLSSAR President / Fort Lauderdale Chapter, Ted Duay; and Fort Lauderdale Chapter President, Chuck Adams.



Retired SCPO Alan Starr presented Joe Motes with his personal Challenge Coin.



Left Front: Jim Lohmeyer, Joe Motes, Chuck Adams. Left Rear: Kevin Shurte, Jim Clark, Paul DeBold, Mark Snider, Lee Popham, Bill Wicks, Ted Duay, Alan Starr & Dave Lohmeyer.



SAR MEMBER PROFILE
PETER HENRY DEWICK
 By Chuck Adams

Q. Ok Peter, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I was born in 1950 in New Haven, Connecticut. I was raised in Setauket, New York where I received my diploma from Port Jefferson High School. I graduated from Syracuse University with a BA in philosophy and mathematics.

I then went to the University of Florida where I graduated with a BLA in Landscape Architecture.

Q. Did you serve in a branch of the military?

A. I served as a surgical technician in the Army. I was drafted during the Vietnam War in 1972 and discharged as a PFC in 1974.

Q. What is or was your occupation?

A. My career was as a Registered Landscape Architect in Florida. I am now semi-retired. I occasionally do commercial projects and expert witness cases.

Q. Can you tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. I am interested in history and politics.

Q. How about your family?

A. My wife and I are no longer together. We have one son, James DeWick

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My patriot ancestor is Captain Benajah Strong. He was a Captain during the Revolutionary War, but after the war acquired the rank of Colonel in the militia. He was one of 3 captains serving under Major Benjamin Talmadge, known popularly as Washington's spy chief. One of the other captains was Caleb Brewster of the Culper spy ring. Captain Strong's first cousin was Selah Strong, the husband of Anna Strong of the Culper spy ring.

Q. Do you plan to contribute to and help with Chapter develop, retain and attract members, or recognize others consistent with SAR programs?

A. Yes

Thanks, Peter, for sharing.



SAR MEMBER PROFILE
REGINALD JAMES MCHUGH
 By Chuck Adams

Q. Ok Jim, can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

A. I was born in 1947, in Hardin, MT, not far from the Crow Indian Reservation. I grew up in Basin, Greybull and Sheridan, WY. I graduated with honors from Sheridan High School and immediately

attended George Washington University in Washington, DC. While attending school, I worked part-time for Senator Milward Simpson and for Senator Clifford Hansen. I also worked one summer for Congressman William Henry Harrison. I completed college at the University of Wyoming in Laramie and received a BA in International Relations in 1970.

Q. What is or was your occupation?

A. I worked for the United States Department of State for 30 years, retiring in 1999 (25 years ago). During that time, I served in the U.S. Foreign Service (Diplomatic Corp), retiring with the equivalent military rank of Admiral or General. In 2000, I returned to work on a part-time basis until 2013.

Q. Can you tell us about some of your recreational interests?

A. My recreational interests are gardening and exercising at the gym.

Q. How about your family?

A. My wife, Nena, and I married in 1975. We have six children (three from her first marriage). We also have seven grandchildren, and our first great grandson was born in July 2023.

Q. Who is your Patriot ancestor?

A. My patriot ancestor is James Ellison. He moved from New Jersey to Virginia in 1768. By 1771, he was living in what is now Monroe County, West Virginia. In June 1774, James volunteered at Cook's Fort, Virginia and served under Lt. John Henderson in Capt. John Lewis's Company in the regiment of Botetourt County. He fought in the Point Pleasant Battle. He also served as spy or scout.

Q. Do you plan to contribute to and help with Chapter develop, retain and attract members, or recognize others consistent with SAR programs?

A. I plan to attend luncheons and help with chapter activities. I am willing to contribute 250 Anniversary articles to the chapter newsletter. Also, I would like to explore scholarship programs available through SAR and assist the Chapter in its efforts to make these available locally.

Thanks, Jim, for sharing.



SAR 133RD NATIONAL CONGRESS

The SAR 133rd National Congress was held in Orlando, Florida between July 15-20, 2023. Representing the Fort Lauderdale Chapter were Chuck Adams, Steve De Paul, Kevin Shurte and Mark Snider. All of our Chapter representatives participated in the July 16th Color Guard for the Memorial Service. Later in the week, Chuck Adams, Steve De Paul and Kevin Shurte participated in the July 19th bench dedication held at the Veteran’s Memorial Center on Merrit Island overlooking the Last Naval Battle. Kevin Shurte throughout the week managed to participate in most every Color Guard event. Mark Snider and his wife, Carmen, and Kevin Shurte and his wife Kathy, all assisted at the registration / credentials or information booths. At the Donor Recognition Breakfast, Chuck Adams accepted, on behalf of the Fort Lauderdale Chapter, the Silver Level 1776 Society Certificate for the Chapter’s 2023 contribution to the SAR Education Center and Museum. Kevin Shurte made a minute-man level donation to the SAR Education Center and Museum Fund, and he represented the Chapter at the Youth Awards Breakfast. At the Medals and Awards Ceremony, Chuck Adams received his second bronze cluster for new member recruitment as Chapter Registrar & Genealogist. Chuck Adams and his wife Ronna helped promote the Friends of the Library Program at a social gathering and membership drive for that arm of the SAR. Steve De Paul gathered information on the George Washington Endowment Fund (GWEF) Program which he joined making a substantial contribution. The GWEF was established in 1993 and is a permanent restricted fund which uses income to annually support SAR unfunded or underfunded programs.

Among the business items, the Congress approved the dues increase for regular members going from \$35 to \$50 effective September 1, 2023.



Left: Chuck Adams, Mark Snider, Steve De Paul and Kevin Shurte on July 16, 2023, Memorial Service, 133rd National Congress in Orlando, Florida



Left: Kevin & Kathy Shurte and Ronna & Chuck Adams on July 18, 2023, Awards Banquet, 133rd National Congress in Orlando, Florida.



Left: Kevin Shurte, Steve De Paul and Chuck Adams at the bench dedication held on July 19, 2023, at the Last Naval Battle Park, Merrit Island, 133rd National Congress in Orlando, Florida.



Left: Carmen & Mark Snider Volunteering at the Credentials and Registration Desks on July 15 & 16 2023 of the 133rd National Congress in Orlando, Florida.



Florida Society representatives attending the July 19, 2023, Installation Banquet, 133rd National Congress in Orlando, Florida.

**Fort Lauderdale Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
2133 NW 208 Terrace
Pembroke Pines FL 33029-2320**



On Saturday August 19th, our Chapter attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for 4 new Eagle Scouts for Troop 224, their certificates have been mailed.

ANNIVERSARIES

This month, September 2023, the following Compatriot is recognized for his long standing membership in SAR and has been mailed his certificate:

40 Years – David B. Meseroll, Compatriot Member registered on 20 Aug 1983.

2023 CHAPTER OFFICERS

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SAR EDUCATION CENTER AND MUSEUM

Earlier this year, the Chapter committed to financially assist SAR in meeting its goal to open the SAR Educational Center and Museum Project by 2026. While contributing \$1,776 to the campaign is a modest amount compared to what is needed, we hope that our example will challenge similar donations from the 500+ chapters located nationwide. There is a brief but informative video on the project posted on YouTube: [SAR Education Center and Museum - YouTube](#). The Chapters 2023 initiative was recognized at the 133rd National Congress where the Fort Lauderdale Chapter was awarded the Signer Level 1776 Society Certificate. In 2023, fifteen Chapter members along with funds from the John Copanos Estate made our contribution possible. The photo below lists those contributing members present at the July 29, 2023, General Membership Meeting as well as lists other contributors not present.

The Chapter’s campaign for 2024 is already well underway. Fifteen of our Compatriots have already contributed. If you have not made a minimum contribution of \$50.00 since notices were sent out in early August 2023, it is not too late for you to join the list of contributors for 2024 – just let us know.



Left back row: Mark Snider, Tim McLane, Kevin Shurte, Steve De Paul, Jim Clark, Bary Moss, John Sauerwald; Left second row: Peter Stevenson; Front kneeling: Chuck Adams. Other contributors not shown: Robert Bowling, Cliff Dickinson, Paul DeBold, Rick Kidder, Jim Lohmeyer, Dave Lohmeyer and Peter Moore.

2023 UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept 21-23, 2023. Fall Leadership, Louisville, KY.

Sept 23 & Oct 28, 2023. Honors Flights of South Florida, Fort Lauderdale – Hollywood International Airport (specifics on terminal for welcome home gathering TBA).

Oct 20-21, 2023. Fall BOM, Kissimmee, FL.

Dec 16, 2023. Wreaths Across America in Broward County, Forest Lawn North Memorial Cemetery, Pompano Beach, FL.